

CLAIMS

1. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES, lacking NH₂-terminal amino acids corresponding to amino acid residues 1, 1-2, 1-3 or 1-4 of the naturally-occurring
5 RANTES and having chemokine antagonistic activity.
2. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES according to claim 1, lacking NH₂-terminal amino acids corresponding to amino acid residues 1-2 of the naturally-occurring RANTES and having a chemokine antagonistic activity
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3. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES according to claim 1, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
4. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES, according to one or more of the preceding
15 claims, in a glycosylated form.
5. DNA molecules comprising the DNA sequences coding for the amino-terminally truncated RANTES of the invention according to one or more of the preceding claims, including nucleotide sequences substantially the same.
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6. An expression vector which comprises the DNA molecule of any claim 5.
7. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 6.
- 25 8. A recombinant process for preparing any of the proteins from claim 1 to 4, comprising culturing in an appropriate culture medium the cells of claim 7.
9. A protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4 for use as medicament.

10. Use of a protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4, in the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy and/or diagnosis of diseases, in which an antagonistic activity of the chemokine effects is required.

5 11. Use according to claim 10, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of inflammatory diseases, HIV-infection, angiogenesis- and hematopoiesis-related diseases, and tumors.

10 12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

13. Use of CD26/DPP IV in the therapy and/or diagnosis of the diseases, in which an antagonistic activity of the chemokine effects is required.

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14. Use according to claim 13, for the treatment of inflammatory, immune and infectious diseases.